Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Government for the fixation/revision and enforcement of minimum rate of wages for the scheduled employment in Agriculture. The Act also provide for the fixation of working hours, weekly days of rest and payment for overtime etc. The Central Government as well as all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have fixed the minimum rate of wages and have framed rules in respect of agricultural workers.

The Enforcement Machinery set up under the Act by the various appropriate Governments conducts regular inspections and necessary action is taken whenever any violation to the Act comes to their notice. The proposal for bringing forward a comprehensive bill for agricultural labour is under the active consideration of Government.

पांचवें राष्ट्रीय कोयला मजदूरी समझौते को अंतिम रूप दिया जाना

1398. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या पांचवें राष्ट्रीय कोयला मजदूरी समझौते को तय किया जा चुका है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) इस समझौते को कब तक तय किए जाने की संभावना है?

कोयला राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा): (क) से (घ) कोयला उद्योग के लिए संयुक्त द्विपक्षीय समिति पर कामगारों तथा प्रबंधन के प्रतिनिधियों के बीच दिनांक 29.4.1995 को एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर हुए, जिसमें राष्ट्रीय कोयला मजदूरी समझौता-5 की निम्न विस्तृत शर्तें, जैसे न्यूनतम मूल मजदूरी, वार्षिक वेतनवृद्धि की दरें, वेतनमान न्यूनतम गारन्टी लाभ, भूमिगत भत्ते, अन्य भत्ते शामिल हैं। दोनों पक्ष समझौते के विस्तृत प्रावधानों पर विचार-विमर्श कर रहे हैं और इसके शीघ्र ही अंतिम रूप दिए जाने की संभावना है।

Action Plan to encourage consumer movement

1399. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any action plan to encourage consumer movement in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to promote consumer movement?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (d) The Government has taken a number of measures to increase consumer consciousness amongst people. Such measures include preparation of audio visual material, printed literature in the form of booklets, brochures, posters, postcard size material etc. in the field of consumer protection. It is also publishing a quarterly journal "Upabhokta Jagaran" which disseminates useful information to the consumers. The printed material is made available to consumer organisations free of cost. In addition, Consumer Welfare Fund has been set up to give financial assistance to voluntary consumer organisations for undertaking activities in the field of consumer protection and promoting consumer movement in all parts of the country.

Coal production in CIL

1400. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minsiter of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the production of coal in each Colliery under the Coal India Limited during each of the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the profits earned/losses incurred during the said period;

(c) whether there is any plan for modernisation of these Collieries; and